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PP RUEHAG RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHLB #0199 0511033
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 201033Z FEB 09
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4252
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3492
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 3695
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 000199

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/FO, NEA/ELA, NEA/IPA
ALSO FOR IO PDAS WARLICK
P FOR DRUSSELL AND RRANGASWAMY
USUN FOR WOLFF/GERMAIN/SCHEDLBAUER
NSC FOR SHAPIRO/MCDERMOTT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/09/2019
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [PINR](#) [UNSC](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [IS](#) [KPAL](#)
IR, LE, SY
SUBJECT: LEBANON: MARCH 2 SHARM EL-SHEIKH CONFERENCE, GOL
PREARING SECOND SHIPMENT OF AID

REF: A. STATE 1457
[1](#)B. BEIRUT 56

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison for reasons 1.4
(b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (SBU) DCM delivered Ref A demarche to PM Fouad Siniora's assistant, Rola Nouredine, on February 18. Nouredine had no substantive response.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Per Ref B, Lebanon continues to provide assistance to Gaza. Ambassador Khalil Mekkawi, President of the Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC), told us February 19 that Lebanon plans to send a second shipment of assistance to Gaza "very soon hopefully." This second shipment will consist entirely of medical supplies with an estimated value of \$250,000 - \$300,000. The Ministry of Health (MOH) is preparing this shipment, which will be sent via Jordan and delivered to Gaza by UNRWA, Health Minister Advisor Rasha Hamra told us. The LPDC and the MOH are coordinating efforts to provide this assistance, which is based on requests from the Palestinian Health Ministry, both Mekkawi and Hamra said. This will bring to approximately \$450,000 - \$500,000 Lebanon's contributions out of its \$1 million pledge in assistance for Gaza.

[1](#)3. (SBU) Asked about the LPDC campaign for cash contributions (Ref B), Mekkawi said that a few weeks ago approximately \$70,000 had been raised in the LPDC account opened at the Central Bank of Lebanon for this purpose. The account is still open for contributions, he said, but none of the money has been transferred to Gaza yet and may be used instead to purchase additional in-kind assistance to Gaza over-and-above the \$1 million pledged by the GOL on December 30.
SISON